



Die Jovis, 17. Februarii,

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ORdered by the Commons assembled in Parliament, That this House doth approve of the order taken by the Committee, in prohibiting, That no more Copies of this Declaration be published till further Order; And that the Committee do take order, That the said Declaration may be reprinted with the Errata amended.

H: Elfyng, Cler. Parl. D. Com.





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THE
VOTES
OF THE
Lords & Commons
Assembled in PARLIAMENT,
Touching no farther ADDRESS to the
KING.

WITH A
DECLARATION

thereupon, Published by the Com-
mons of *England* in Parliament assembled.

Die Jovis, 17. Februarii, 1647.

Ordered by the Commons assembled in Parliament,
That these Votes and Declaration be forthwith
printed and published: H. Elsyng, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

London, Printed for Edward Husband, Printer to the
Honorable House of Commons, Feb. 18. 1647.

Gay 1647.9.3.37

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OF F. L. GAY

JUNE 1, 1910

(5)



A
DECLARATION
OF THE
COMMONS

Assembled in Parliament,
Expressing the Reasons of these
ensuing
RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved upon the Question by the
Lords and Commons in Parliament
assembled,

That they do Declare, That they
will make no further Addresses
or Applications to the King.
Re-

(6)

Resolved upon the Question by the
Lords and Commons,

That no Application or Addresses
be made to the King by any per-
son whatsoever, without the leave of
both Houses.

Resolved upon the Question by the
Lords and Commons,

That the person or persons that
shall make breach of this Order,
shall incur the Penalties of High
Treason.

Resolved upon the Question by the
Lords and Commons,

That they do Declare, That they
will receive no more any Mes-
sage from the King; and do enjoin,
That no person whatsoever do presume
to receive or bring any Message from
the

the King to both or either of the Houses of Parliament, or to any other person.

HOW fruitless our former Addresses, have been, to the King, is so well known to the world, that it may be expected we should now Declare, Why we made the last, or so many before, rather then why we are resolved to make no more.

We cannot acknowledge any great Confidence that our words could have been more perswasive with Him, then Sighs and Groans, the Tears and crying Blood (an heavy Cry!) the Blood of Fathers, Brothers and Children; at once the Blood of many Hundred thousand Free-born Subjects in Three great Kingdoms, which Cruelty it self could not but pity to destroy.

We must not be so unthankful to God, as to forget we never were forced to any Treaty; and yet we have no less, then Seven times, made such Applications to the King, and tendred such Propositions, that might occasion the world to judge, We have not onely yielded up our Wills and Affections, but our Reason also and Judgement, for obtaining any true Peace or good Accomodation.

But it never yet pleased the King to accept of any Tender fit for us to make, nor yet to offer any fit for us to receive.

It is very well known, That the Propositions sent to the King at *Oxford*, and Treated on at *Uxbridge*, were agreed by the Parliaments of both Kingdoms, not onely as Just, but Necessary also for the very Being of these Kingdoms in a settled Peace and Safety.

And although the Kings persisting in his wounded ways and Denyals, might have caused us to improve the Advantage of that great Success (which it pleased God to afford us) Yet when His Armies were all broken, so that in Disguise He fled from *Oxford* to the Scots at *Newark*, and from thence went to *Newcastle*; and that *Oxford*, and almost all His Garisons were taken, We tendered at *Newcastle* Propositions, the same in effect which had been presented before in the midst of all His Strength and Forces.

And notwithstanding the Change of His Condition, and Denyal of those Propositions; after He was left to the Commissioners of Parliament, and our Brethren of *Scotland* quietly departed home; after all His Garisons taken, and no visible Force in the whole Kingdom appearing for Him; the King being at the sole Dispose of the Parliament without Dispute; yet even Then, the same Propositions were again presented to Him at *Hampton Court*.

In all which Addresses the Commissioners of *Scotland* agreed with us, and joyned with our Commissioners in attending the King. Who not granting our Propositions, but still giving strange,

strange, unexpected and conditional Answers or Denials, might justly have made us consider some other course for settling the Kingdom in Peace and Safety, without any further Application. Which was also so far agreed by our Brethren of *Scotland* (at their leaving *Newcastle*) that their Commissioners Declared, in case the King consented not to the Propositions, Yet they would maintain the Treaties and Union made between the Kingdoms.

But so desirous we were of His Concurrence in the Settlement of the Kingdoms Peace, that we yet again resolved upon another Address; and did so qualifie the said Propositions, that, where it might stand with the Publique Safety, His wonted Scruples and Objections were prevented or removed.

And although we could not forget how dangerous and void of Success our former Treaties had been, and that a Personal Treaty had been Declared by both Houses and the Commissioners of *Scotland* to be unsafe, without Security and Satisfaction first given; yet we also yielded to That: on condition the King would Sign but Four Bills, which we judged not onely Just and Honorable, but Necessary even for present Peace and Safety during such a Treaty.

We have cause enough to remember, That He sometimes denied to receive our humble Petitions for Peace: and when we desired Him to appoint some place for a Committee of both

Promises to attend Him with Propositions for Peace; He named *Windsor*; promising to abide thereabouts till they came unto Him: But presently marched forward (that very night) so near *London*, that He had almost surpris'd it, while He had so engaged Himself for a Treaty; had not some few of our Foot at *Brainford*, with invincible Courage, exposed themselves to apparent Death; Till His Army was forced to retire in Fear and Shame, with the Guilt of most Inhumane and Barbarous Cruelties committed at *Brainford*, to assure *London* what it must have expected, had not God prevented those Bloody Designs.

And the King once sent us a specious Message of renewing a Treaty, when at the same time His Messenger was instructed how to manage that Bloody Massacre in *London*; which was then Designed by vertue of the Kings Commission, since published.

And about the time of the Treaty at *Uxbridge*, He excused Himself to the Queen by a Letter under His own Hand, as forced to that Treaty by the mutinous Motions of His Mungrel Parliament at *Oxford*; and that He could not hope any Two of them of His make, else He would not have acknowledged Us for the Parliament of *England*; which yet He did with a Protestation, entered into the Council Books, That His calling us so, did not make us a Parliament.

All which was but small Encouragement, again

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again to make our selves His Sport or Scorn by any other Treaty; yet we now yielded to This also.

But notwithstanding This, and all former Tenders, We have now received such a Denyal, that we are in despair of any good by Addresses to the King. Neither must we be so injurious to the People, in further delaying their Settlement, as any more to press his Consent to These, or any other Propositions.

Not can we see why it should be expected a new Engagement could prevail on Him, or oblige Him more strongly to the Kingdom, then the Solemn Oath of His Coronation; and the several other Vows, Protestations and Imprecations, so frequently by Him broken, during His whole Reign; and so often renewed before God and the whole World.

We may be the more justified herein, by those that know what passed between the King and our Brethren the Scots; when those Articles were agreed and confirmed in the first Pacification, not long before these Wars; which, as soon as their backs were turned, and their Armies out of sight, were disavowed again by the King, and by His Command publicly burnt at London by the Hands of the Hangman.

Which yet might have been forgotten, had not a continued track of Breach of Trust in the Three Kingdoms, since he wore the Crown made us (though unwilling) to remember it.

We take no pleasure to repeat our own Miseries, or others Mischiefe, if it might be hidden or forgotten; But we are now forced to speak what hath long been suffered in too much silence.

Himself in publique Speeches and Declarations, hath laid a fit foundation for all Tyranny, by this most Destructive Maxime or Principle, which He saith he must avow, *That He oweth an Account of His Actions to none, but God alone; and, That the Houses of Parliament, joynt or separte, have no Power, either to make, or Declare any Law.*

The Private Articles agreed, in order to the Match with *Spain*; and those other Private Articles upon the *French* Marriage; so prejudicial to the Peace, Safety, Laws, Religion here established; and the continued Correspondence, which hath since been carried on, with *Rome*, are so evident as cannot be denied.

We cannot but call to minde the Proceedings and Passages of the Parliament held in the second year of this Kings Reigh; concerning the Death of His Royal Father.

The Tenth of *May*, 1626. the House of Commons charged the Duke of *Buckingham*, among other things, in these words; (Delivered to the Lords, at a Conference.)

W Hereas the sworn Physitians of our late Sovereign Lord, King James of blessed Memory,

Memory, attending on His Majesty in the moneth of March, in the Two and twentieth of His most Glorious Reign, in the times of His sickness, being an Ague, Did in due and necessary care of and for the recovery of His health, and preservation of His person, upon and after several mature Consultations in that behalf had and holden, at several times in the same moneth resolve, and gave directions, That nothing should be applyed or given unto His Highness, by way of Phisick or Dyer, during His said sickness, but by and upon their general Advice and Consents: And after good deliberation thereof first had, more especially by their like care and upon like Consultations, Did justly resolve and publikely give warning, to and for all the Gentlemen and other servants and Officers of His said late Majesties Bedchamber, That no Meat or Drink whatsoever should be given unto Him within two or three hours next before the usual time of and for the coming of His Fit in the said Ague, nor during the continuance thereof, nor afterwards until His cold Fit were past. The said Duke of Buckingham
being

being a sworn Servant of His late Majesty, of and in His Majesties said Bedchamber, contrary to his duty, and the tender respect which he ought to have had of His Majesties most Sacred Person; and after the Consultations, Resolutions, Directions and Warning aforesaid, Did nevertheless, without any sufficient warrant in that behalf, unduly cause and procure certain Plaisters, and a certain Drink or Potion to be provided for the use of His said Majesty, without the direction or privy of His said late Majesties Physicians, not prepared by any of His Majesties sworn Apothecaries or Chyrurgeons, but compounded of severall Ingredients to them unknown: Notwithstanding the same plaister, or some plaister like thereunto, having been formerly administered unto His said Majesty, did procure such ill effects, as that some of the said sworn Physicians did altogether disallow thereof, and utterly refused to meddle any further with His said Majesty, until those plaisters were removed, as being prejudicial to the health of His Majesty. Yet nevertheless, the same plaister, as also a Drink or potion, was provided by him the said Duke; which he the
said

said Duke, by colour of some insufficient and slight
 pretences, did upon Monday the One and twen-
 tieth day of March, in the Two and twentieth
 year aforesaid, when His Majesty (by the judge-
 ment of His said Physicians) was in the declina-
 tion of His Disease, cause and procure the said
 plaister to be applyed to the Brest and Wrists of
 His said late Majesty; and then also, at and in
 His Majesties Fit of his said Ague the same
 Monday, and at severall times, within two
 hours before the coming of the same Fit, and before
 His Majesties then cold Fit was passed, did
 deliver and cause to be delivered, severall quan-
 tities of the said drink or potion to his late Maje-
 sty: who thereupon, at the same times, within the
 seasons in that behalf prohibited by his Majesties
 physicians as aforesaid, did by the means and pro-
 curement of the said Duke, drink, and take
 divers quantities of the said drink or potion, applied
 and given unto, and taken and received by his
 said Majesty as aforesaid, Great distempers,
 and divers ill Symptomes appeared upon
 his said Majesty; insomuch that the said physi-
 cians finding his Majesty the next morning much
 worse

worse in the estate of his health, and holding a Consultation thereabout, did by joynt consent send unto the said Duke, praying him not to adventure to minister unto his Majesty any more physick without their Allowance and Approbation. And his said Majesty himself, finding himself much diseased and afflicted with pain and sickness after his then Fit, when by the course of his Disease he expected intermission and ease, did attribute the cause of such his trouble unto the said plaister and drink which the said Duke had so given, and caused to be administered unto him. Which said adventurous act, by a person obliged in duty and thankfulness done to the person of so great a King, after so ill success of the like formerly administered, contrary to such directions as aforesaid, and accompanied with so unhappy an event (to the great grief and discomfort of all his Majesties Subjects in general;) is an Offence and Misdemeanor of so high a nature, as may justly be called, and is by the said Commons deemed to be, An act of transcendent presumption, and of dangerous consequence.

After

After which, the King came into the Lords House, and took notice of that Charge, and told them, he could be a witness, to clear him, in every one of them.

Unto which Charge, no Answer came in, untill the eighth of June following, and the tenth of June, it was ordered by the House of Peers to be communicated to the House of Commons. But while the House was preparing to send up their proofes, upon which they declared, that they doubted not but to have judgement against the said Duke, the King expressed a sudden purpose to dissolve the Parliament. And although the House of Peers petitioned for its continuance, expressing their great and universal sorrow for his intentions to dissolve it; yet, notwithstanding all this, the said Parliament was dissolved, the 15 day of the same *June*.

At the same time also, during the Parliament, Sir *Dudley Digges* and Sir *John Elliot*, who especially managed, these Conference and Examinations, were committed close prisoners to the Tower within two dayes after the said Charge, by warrant under the Kings own hand.

Riches and incorruptions also were constantly lent from the King to the House, while they had the said Charge in Agitation. And the Parliament being dissolved, before Justice could be done, there never was any legal inquiry made, at any time since, concerning the death of the said King.

We leave the world now to Judge, where the Guilt of This remains.

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We

We can fully shew, how *Rochel* was by Him betrayed, and thereby a fatal blowe given to the Protestant Cause in *France*: how also He lent divers of the Navie Royal, and other Merchant-ships, to the French King, to be employed against those whom He was engaged to have assisted. And when some of the Commanders and others in those ships, were so much English as to dispute those Orders; we can shew the King's Letter under his own hand to Captain *Penington*, to put them into the service of the French King, or to sink them in case of refusal.

We cannot forget the designs to enslave us by the German-Horle (that we say nothing of the late Spanish Fleet; with a great Army therein, brought into the Downs, 1639.) and to grinde us by enforced Loans, Privie-Seals, Coat and Conduet money, enlarging of Forests, inclosing of Commons, ingrossing of Gun-powder, with innumerable Patents and Monopolies of Malt, Salt, Sea-cole, Soap, Leather, Wine, Sugar, Allom, Farthings, Pins, Tobacco, and almost all things else, together with that one *Compendium* of all Oppression and Slavery, called **SHIP-MONEY**.

The torture of our bodies, by most cruel whippings, sitting of noses, cutting off ears, branding of cheeks, Racks and Pillories, with close Imprisonment at pleasure; might be the sooner forgotten,

gotten, had not our souls been also Lorded over; led captive into Superstition and Idolatry; triumphed on by Oathes *ex Officio*, Excommunications, Ceremonious Articles, new Canons, Canon-Oathes, &c.

One thing more was found, to make us worse then Slaves; in that we might not hope for liberty: The very name of Parliament became so odious at the Court, that if, in twelve yeers time, there was so much as one summoned, it served but to shew the lawlesse power of those that could not be content onely to dissolve it at pleasure, but we must be forbidden by Proclamation, to speak or hope for another Parliament. And at such dissolutions, there was no Priviledge strong enough to secure the closers, cabinets, pockers and persons of those that in duty and conscience did but vote or act as men above meer slaves: this was fault enough for close imprisonment and death; for That hath also followed.

Nor was it enough thus to enslave one Kingdom, but the same Projectors who had so enthralled *England*, must contrive also to reduce *Ireland*; and conform *Scotland*, that so the mingling of neighbour-tears, might by sympathy increase each others wo.

Scotland was to be the first Scene. Where a new Lyturgie, with new Canons, are to make the Prologue to the following Act.

This not succeeding, as was hoped, an Army,

my must be rais'd to force compliance; but by the mediation of the English Lords, a Pacification is concluded. And it held till the Kings returne to Court made him forget and disavow it: but the Burnt Articles left ashes enough to beget a new flame.

There wanted but a form of Law to make all just: For this and for supply: not for advice, a Parliament is ventured on; yet with Provision, that it should not hurt, although it would not help; and not complying (as was hoped, to assist that Warre against the Scots) was crime enough to merit dissolution; with a false, scandalous Declaration, in the King's Name.

The Parliament being dissolved, the King took from his subjects by power, what he could not otherwise obtain.

We need not tell the world, how in the midst of all our miseries, the Scots (our Brethren) entered, with a powerfull Army; marching on as friends, till they were forced to make their passage over Time.

It was then thought necessary by the King to summon this present Parliament. In which, wee did proceed with ease, so long as there was but any hope, wee would comply with him; against the Scots, and give assistance to that Warre.

But he quickly found it vain to hope to be supplied by us against the Scots. And when we be-

into consideration we have seen again that
 led in a new Warre (notwithstanding the late
 Pacification) we saw it impossible to gain those
 pernicious counsels at the present, or to prevent
 them for the future, without questioning their
 Authors.

At This, the King discovered himself, so
 strongly and passionately affected to such malign-
 ant Counsellours and their counsels, that He
 would sooner desert or force this Parliament and
 Kingdom, then alter his course, and deliver up his
 wicked Counsellours to Law and Justice.

By this time, the Queens pious designe (as they
 termed it) to advance Popery, was almost ready
 for the birth: being helped much by a Popish
 Fast, enjoyned weekly by the Popes Nuncio, and
 by Letters from Secretary *Windebank*; who durst
 not abide examination, but after he was question-
 ed by the House of Commons, got a passe from
 the King to go beyond sea.

Although the King made light of all our intelli-
 gence from forraign parts; yet he could not so
 well avoid or deny the Commissions given at
 Court to Popish Agents for private levies; or that
 the Papists began to rise and arme themselves in
 the North-west of *England* and *Wales* till they
 were suppressed; or that there were Regiments
 raising and listing in *London* and parts adjoyning,
 under pretence of souldiers for *Portugal*; or that
 some of these came to seize & possesse themselves
 of

of the Tower, and the Lieutenant threatned for refusing them; All which, he knew, might be sufficiently proved.

To the like pious designe, we may referre the great Cabal, for bringing up the Northern Army, to over-awe the Parliament: which the King did so often and solemnly disavow, *as nothing but loose discourses of a modest Petition, which also vanished Two or Three months (he saith) before we knew it.*

But he now knoweth, we can prove the chief part of that Caball came from himself to the main Actors; and that some of them did dissuade him from His way, because it was so sharp and high, exceeding the limits of Honour and Law: And yet Their propositions, which were the lower way, were much above the size of Petitions, as they are already published in their own Confessions. And it is very strange, Mr. Percy, Sir John Suckling, and Mr. Germin (sent away by the King's special warrant) should flee beyond Sea, onely upon discovery of a modest Petition.

But notwithstanding any dissuasions, yet the King persisted in His way, so that after this, there was appointed a Meeting of Officers at Burrough bridge, and Propositions made, with private Instructions brought from the King, by some that told them they were unwise to shew their teeth, except they would bite; and that the King would pawn his Jewels for them, would they be faithful to him, and if they marched forward, they should be met by
the

the Prince, and the Earl of Newcastle with a good body of Horse; and that the French also would be ready to assist them.

This was in *April*, and we had notice of this in the beginning of *May*: when also there was a designe for some French to have seized on *Portsmouth*, whither the Queen was then going: but the Ports were better secured, by a special Committee.

So farre was it also from vanishing divers months before our notice, that some of those Cabalists, after examination by us, were againe attempted by the King; and some of them sent againe to the Army with new Instructions and Directions signed by the King Himselfe: as most clearly appeareth by comparing the Journalls of May One thousand six hundred fourry and one, with the months following, together with the time specified in the confessions of Sir *Jacob Astley*, Sir *John Conyers*, Colonel *Legg*, and others, already published.

And when there was yet a demurre, among the chief Officers, there went another Agent from Court, to quicken them; and treat of some Directions signed by the King. But he was to go farther, the Scots Army being then in *New-Castle*.

What offers were made to Them, of the planter of London, if they would advance; or of
Four

Four Northern Counties with Three hundred thousand pounds on Jewels of great value; but to stand Neuters in that designe, is already declared by some, who may better know the Propositions made by *Oncal* & who brake prison, here *Sir John Hinderson*, and others, with Letters of Credence from the King.

After this, he was so resolute to go into Scotland, that he could not be perswaded, by many Petitions, to defer that journey. Neither would He be pleased to leave such a Commission, as the Parliament desired of Him. Although before, in the year One thousand six hundred thirty and nine, at His Northern Expedition, He did intrust Secretary *Widdelton*, a knowne favourer of Papists, with blank sheets both of Parchment and Paper, signed with his signe Manual, which were employed by Him for disposing great Commands by Land and Sea.

It is well known what Letters the King sent into Ireland by the Lord *Dillon*, immediately before the Rebellion; and where the Great Seale of Scotland was, and in whose hands, when that Commission was sealed at Edinburgh to the Irish Rebels, who dispersed Copies thereof in Ireland, with Letters or Proclamations; and we have a copy thereof, attested by Oath, with Depositions also of those who have seen it under the Seal.

Which Commission was promised (as some of the chiefest Rebels confessed) to the Irish Committee at *London*, for the most part Papists, (which was thought a good Omen,) and since most active Rebels: upon whose private mediation the King gave away more then Five Counties; saying, That hee expected they should recompence him some other way; and, That hee would willingly grant all their desires, but hee was oppressed by the Parliament in *England*, of whom he wished that he could be revenged.

When wee so often desired, and pressed the King to Disband that Irish Popish Army; which (as was cleared at the Earle of *Straffords* tryall) was raised to reduce the Kingdomes: Sometimes hee would give no answer at all; and sometimes did plainly tell us, Hee could not disband it, for Reasons best known to himself: Sometimes the Scots must first disband; and Then, there was a new pretence of divers Regiments promised to *Spain*, for which the King was engaged, and could not goe back.

Which wee now wonder not at; for by the Confession of *Mac Cart* and *Maguire*, with others, it is cleare, that this pretence of men for the King of *Spaines* service, was but a colour to keep some in Armes for a foundation of that Rebellion; and that some of the Committee coming from *London*, contrived this Plot for defence of the King, who was then (they say) so much injured in *England* and *Scotland*.

And the first clause of that Oath enjoyned by the Generall Councell of Rebels, was, *To beare true Faith and Allegiance to King Charles, and by all meanes to maintain his Royall Prerogative, against the Puritans in the Parliament of England.*

And although we Declared to the King, That they styled themselves the Kings or Queenes Army; yet we could not obtain a Proclamation against them in divers Moneths. And Then also, butt Forty Copies might be Printed, and expresse Order given, That none should bee published till his further directions; as appeareth under his own Secretaries hand.

Which might very well stand with the Letters from Court to the Lord *Muskery* (a great Rebell in *Manster*) who was assured, his Majesty was well pleased with what he did, and would in time give him thanks for it; although for the present, it did not Then stand with the convenience of the Kings affaires, to give him Publick countenance. And This was afterwards made good by the King, who in one of the Letters taken at *Naseby*, commandeth the Earle of *Ormond* to give particular thanks to the said *Muskery* and *Plunkett*.

Wee may yet remember how the Earle of *Leicester* was delayed and detained by the King (beyond all pretence) from going against the Rebels.

How also the King refused a Commission (often asked by both Houses) for the Lord *Brookes* and Lord *Wharton*, when at severall times there were large

large Provisions made for relief of *Munster*, and other Parts so much distressed, that *Limrick* was wholly lost.

But when the Rebels wanted Commanders at their very beginning, we have long since named divers Papists and Persons of quality, that by the Kings speciall Warrants, after the Ports were shut by both Houses of Parliament, passed hence, and headed the said Rebels.

And wee likewise named Commanders and Officers, whom the King called off from their Trust against the Rebels; and Ships from their Guards at Sea, that so the Rebels might be supplied with Forraign aides, besides all the Armes and Ammunition they had from the Kings Magazines there, and from hence also, by the Earle of *Artrim*, Lord *Abain* and others from the Queene. Although the Councell of *Ireland* desiring some Peeces of Battery from hence for the poore Protestants there, could not obtaine them from the King: But some of our Ships sent to relieve them, were seized by his men of Warre (as the Cloathes and other Provisions by Land) and sold or exchanged for Armes and Ammunition for the King. And the Rebels gave Letters, of Mart for taking the Parliaments Ships, but freed the Kings, as their very good friends.

Let the World now judge, how much reason wee had to beleive the Rebels, when they did so often sweare, they did nothing without good Authority, and Commission from the King,

for that Sir *Philip Druce* would not be perswaded, Generall *Lesley* had any Authority from the King against the Rebels.

Divers Months also before that rebellion began, There was information given upon Oath, to the Archbishop & others of the Kings Councell, That there was a great designe among the Papists, for a Generall Massacre of all the Protestants in *Ireland* and *England* also; and that a great Royall Person had a hand in it, but it was to be managed by direction from the Pope.

And besides the Kings Letters to the Pope, when hee was in *Spain*; and others long since his return, on the behalf of the Duke of *Burgundy* (which must be requited by the said Duke, with a Foreign Army to invade *England*, upon the Kings designe) It is cleare, that some Moneths before the Irish Rebellion, the King had an Agent in *Rome*, as by divers of his owne Secretaries papers appeareth.

And that the same designes were laid for *England* also, at the same time, if we might not believe the confession of the Queene Mothers Servant (attested upon Oath) that there were many thousands appointed to cut the Protestants throats in this Kingdome also; when the King went to *France*, yet we may remember, it was confessed by some of the Principall Rebels, that their Popish Committee here with the King, had communicated that designe to many Papists in *England*, by whose advice, though some things were

altered,

altered, yet it was generally concluded, that about the same time, there should be the like proceedings of the Papists here. Inasmuch that when *Charles Mont* was seized in Ireland, *Sir Phelim O'neale* and other great Rebels did with much confidence affirm, the Tower was also seized at *London*, and the Arch-Bishop released by their party Heer: where they said, there was as much blood running as in *Ireland*.

And it is very well known, that upon the Kings returne from *Scotland*, besides the unusuall preparations of Ammunition and Armes, with new Guards within and about *Whitehall* and besides the great quantity of Fire-workes found and taken in Papists houses, the Tower was also filled with new Guards, many Cannoneeres, Granadoes, and all sorts of Fire-workes, Morters, with great peeces of Battery, ready prepared and mounted against the City. *Sir William Balfour*, who was formerly threatened for refusing the new Guards while the Earl of *Strafford* lived, was now displaced, and such Officers, placed by the King, as were not onely suspected by us, but the whole City also (who durst not abide in their own houses) as by their severall Petitions is manifest.

From this time the crack of open force against this Parliament and Kingdome did appear more visible.

The charge of Treason, against some of both Houses, and that unparallelled Act of violence by the Kings coming so attended to the House of Com-

mons; (after he had discharged our Guards, denying us any, but what might restrain or overawe us) was but the Prologue to a bloody Tragedy: had not the Parliament, and good affections of the City, interrupted that design; and caused the Kings new Guards (already listed and moulded under Colonels and other Officers) to withdraw a little to another Scene.

Neither would the Countrey more comply with Those designs; although they were attempted, with unusuall arguments of armed Troops in warlike manner to compel them; which succeeded yet so ill, that the Lord Digby durst not abide the tryall, but was sent away upon a speciall Errand by the Kings own Warrant.

What his Errand was beyond Sea, we may well conclude from the List of Arms and Ammunition (for which we can produce the Kings own Hand) taken amongst his Papers, and printed with his Letters to the Queen, at her first landing in *Holland*.

What advice hee gave for the Kings retiring to some safe place, (that he might declare himselfe;) and how the King followed it, is known enough.

But before the Kings settling at *York*, the notice we had of his Commissions to the Earl of *Newcastle*, and Colonell *Legg*, for attempting *Newcastle* and *Hull*, might justly occasion us to provide for Their security. Especially when wee had certain intelligence of Forraign Forces from *Denmark*, to come in about *Hull*, Whither al

so came the Lord *Digby*, and divers Commanders, with much Ammunition and Arms, from Foreign Parts.

And had not the *Suedes* about that time invaded part of the King of *Denmarks* Dominions, we had reason enough to expect a storm That way; to have fallen also on *Hull*, where was then a great Magazine; and before we ever asked the King to remove it, wee represented to him, that besides all other intelligence of forraign Negotiations, We had good notice of a Fleet preparing in *Denmark*, and that one of the Lord *Digbys* servants had solicited a Mariner (or Pilot) to conduct it into *Hull*.

And before That time, the King had dispatched an Agent into *Denmark*, with Letters of Credit, complaining against the Parliament, as unjustly fixed on the destruction of One man, (the Earl of *Strafford*, then living) but he was resolved to take another course, and therefore desired Ayde.

And there came such an answer, that among the large offers made to the Scots before the Kings going into *Scotland*, They were told, the King was assured of Horses and Mony from *Denmark*. And by an intercepted Letter from the *Hague* to Secretary *Nicholas*, long since published, wee found, that (besides many Armes and Cannon then provided in *Holland*) There were also comming from *Denmark*, Ships with Ten thousand Armes for Foot, and Fifteen hundred Horse for the Kings use; And that *Cockran* very handsomely evaded That, which was like to have frustrated all their expectations from Thence.

And

And in *Cockran's* latter Instructions (for there had been others before into *Denmark*) long since printed; The King saith, We were then beginning to make head against him, and were then leaving Forces, And therefore he presseth for Men, Money, Armes, and Ships, from *Denmark*; for which also he useth many Arguments, and among others one in these words;

That in pursuance of their great design of extirpating the Royall Blood and Monarchy of England, they have endeavored likewise to lay a great blemish upon his Royall Family, endeavoring to Illegitimate all derived from his Sister, at once to cut off the Interest and pretensions of the whole Race; which their most detestable and scandalous Design they have pursued, examining witnesses, and conferring circumstances and times to colour their pretensions in so great a fault; and which, as His sacred Majesty of England in the true sense of Honor of his Mother doth abhor, and will punish; so he expects his concurrents in vindicating a Sister of so happy memory, and by whom so near an union and continued League of Amity hath been produced between the Families and Kingdoms.

A most false, scandalous charge of That which never entred into our thoughts. So that we believe there never was, a more unworthy Act, done by any Prince; so to betray His Trust, and people, to a forraigne Nation, by incensing them with such an odious slander, to the shame of his owne Mother.

Which we repeat the rather, because when we declared our Intelligence, that *Cockeran* was sent into *Denmark* to procure forces Thence, *The King* disavowed it, calling it a vile Scandall, in his answer to our Declaration of the 22 of October. 1642.

In the same Instructions to *Cockeran*, He declareth also, that he Then expected assistance from all his neighbour Princes and Allies; in particular, the greatest part of the States Fleet from *Holland*; whither he confessed hee had then sent the Queen.

He might also have added, That with the Queen, contrary to his trust, he had sent the ancient Jewells of the Crowne of *England* (Of a very vast value) to be pawned, or sold, for Ammunition and Armes; of which we had certaine knowledge before we tooke up Armes.

Neither had we so much as once asked the setting of the Militia, till the Queen was going into *Holland*.

And it may be remembred, that many months before her voyage to *Holland*, She was going beyond Sea; had not our motions to the King stayed her (And that among other reasons given) because we Then also heard, she had packed up the Crown

Jewells

Jewells and Plate. By which we might see, what was I then also intended, by That journey, had we prevented it till the Winter.

But at *Burrough Briggs* (before the Earle of *Straffords* death) the Officers were told, the King would pawn his Jewells for them; and the French were promised to assist them.

All This, and much more yet to be said, maketh us stand amazed at the Kings Solemne Protestations, so often made, Calling God to witness and revenge it also, if he had any thought of bringing up the Northern Army; or of Leavying Forces to wage Warre with his Parliament; or to invade the Rights of his Subjects; or of bringing in forraigne Forces or ayds from beyond Seas; *which as himselfe saith in His Dec arations) would not only burie this Kingdome, in sudaine distraction and ruine, But His owne Name and Posterity, in perpetuall scorne and Infamy.*

Yet at very first, when Himselfe, and the Lords, made such a Protestation at *Yorke*, against Leavying Forces; He commanded his Subjects by Proclamation to resist the Orders of Parliament. And had signed that most illegall Commission of Array; And did privately contrive the getting out of the Stores, Ships or otherwise, such Ordinance, Powder, shot, and Ammunition, as could possibly be got and provided; *For which we can produce a Letter of 20. June 1642. under his own hand, to Sir John Heydon Lieutenant of the Ordinance, to convey it secretly in Ballast of Ships, and required subscriptions for Plate, Horses, and Armes.*

And

And had Then also raised such Guards of Horse and Foote about him; that by them, He did not onely abuse our Committees sent unto him; Beate our publique Officers and Messengers; protect notorious Papists; Traytors or Eelons, (such as *Beckwith* and others) from the *Posse Comitatus*; But also with those Guards, Cannons and Armes from beyond Sea, did attempt to force *Hull* in an Hostile manner; and that, within few dayes after that solemn Protestation at *York*.

It was not long before he proclaimed us Rebels and Traiteurs; setting up his standard against the Parliament: which never any King of *England* did before himselfe.

Nor did ever any, but King *Charles*, set up a mock Parliament at *Oxford*, or any other place, to oppose and protest against the Parliament of *England*, which himselfe and both houses had continued by Act of Parliament.

And when he had made Those, pretended members at *Oxford*, to falsifie their faith and trust, they owed to this Kingdom; finding that by them, he could not carry on his own pernicious designs; he derided their meeting, in a letter to the Queen; & called them *A Mungrell Parliament*. Whereby his own party may perceive, what reward they must expect, when they have done their utmost, to shipwrack their faith, and conscience, to his will and Tyranny.

And for calling in of forreign forces, besides That
E. 2. which

which we have said already; it is very well known by his own Letters taken at *Naseby*, and the Lord *Digbys* Cabinet, what negotiations he hath long had in all States round about.

We have also remaining with us, an authentick Copy of his Commission, for calling over Irish Rebels, to subdue this Parliament; with the disloyall and Rebellious City of *London* (as he calleth it.)

And for This purpose (expresly against an Act of Parliament) he made a Pacification first; and since a Peace; with those most cruell bloody Rebels; on such odious, shamefull, and unworthy conditions, that himself blushed to own, or impart them to his own Lieutenant the Earl of *Ormond*; but a private commission was made to the Lord *Herbert* (called Earle of *Glamorgan*) commanding him to mannage it with all possible Secrefie.

And for letting us see this secer commission (which was taken at *Sligo*) the said Lord did endure a specious confinement.

Neither do we by *This time* wonder, he should forget his Vows and Protestations, that he would never consent (upon whatsoever pretence) to a toleration of the Popish profession; or abolition of the Lawes then in force against Recusants; with most solemn imprecations, that God would so deale with him and his, as he continued in such professions; and inviolably kept those Protestations: not withstanding about the very same time, it appears by Letters, under his own hand, to the

Queen.

Queen and the Earl of *Ormond*, that he would consent to the taking away all Penall Lawes against the Papists, both in *England* and *Ireland*.

And although we had sufficient notice, and proofs, of most of these things before; notwithstanding all his breach of trust, with the Protestants in *France*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and This Kingdome; which (besides all other oppressions by unjust Prerogative) he hath so often endeavoured to enslave, by *German*, *Spanish*, *French*, *Lorrain*, *Irish*, *Danish*, and other forreign forces; yet so really, we sought his own, as well as the Kingdoms, Peace and happiness; that after so many denyalls, we made this last Application, so just and honorable, that we cannot but now conclude, He hath wholly forgotten, not only his Duty to the Kingdome, but also the Care, and respect, he owes to himself, and his own family.

These are some few of the many reasons, why, we cannot repose, any more Trust in Him; and why we have made Those former Resolutions.

Yet we shall use our utmost endeavours, to settle the present government, as may best stand with the Peace and happiness of this Kingdome.

FINIS.

Queen and the Earl of Oxford that would con-
 sent to the taking away all the goods and
 the parish both in the town and in the
 church, and although we had in the church
 of most of these things before; notwithstanding all
 his breach of trust, and the Privilege in France
 granted, and the King's command, which the
 King and others of the Council, by his Highness's
 he had to offer and to take, by the
 many, and the King's command, by the
 and other foreign laws, and the King's
 his own, as well as the King's command, by the
 notwithstanding to many, and the King's
 Application to his Highness, and the King's
 but now consider his Highness's command, by the
 only his Duty to the King, and the King's
 and respect he owes to his Highness, and the King's

These are few of the many reasons why
 we cannot, and more than in France, and
 why we have not the same former legislation.
 Yet we shall see our countrymen, and the
 the present government, and the King's
 the Peace and happiness of the Kingdom.

FINIS

Die Iovis, 17. Februarii,
1647.

ORdered by the Commons
assembled in Parliament,
That this House doth approue
of the Order taken by the
Committee, in prohibiting,
That no more Coppies of this
Declaration be Published till
further Order; And that the
Committee do take order that
the said Declaration may be
reprinted with the Errata a-
mended.

H. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. Dom, Com.
